

## **USP 800 ASSESSMENT OF RISK**

Once it has been determined which NIOSH hazardous drugs and dosage forms are in the pharmacy, there are two options on how to handle the hazardous drugs: use the containment strategies in USP 800 for all hazardous drugs or perform an assessment of risk.

There are 3 times when all the containment strategies in USP 800 must be used:

1. when manipulating antineoplastic drugs,
2. when compounding with any NIOSH hazardous drug active pharmaceutical ingredient (API), or
3. if an assessment of risk has not been performed.

If the hazardous drugs do not pose a significant risk of exposure due to the dosage form (for example, tablets or capsules), it may be appropriate to perform an assessment of risk in order to determine alternate containment strategies and/or work practices.

The assessment of risk must consider the following:

- The type of hazardous drug – antineoplastic, non-antineoplastic, reproductive risk only
- Dosage form – capsule, tablet, liquid
- Risk of exposure
- Packaging
- Manipulation
- Documentation of the alternate containment strategies and/or work practices
- Assessment is reviewed at least every 12 months
- Review is documented

Examples of alternate containment strategies and/or work practices may include wearing gloves when counting hazardous drugs and/or having a dedicated counting tray and spatula for hazardous drugs.